

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 01096 300451Z

17

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 OIC-02 /094 W

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R 300339Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1506

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 1096

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN KS MU

SUBJ: KOREAN QUESTION AT UN

REF: (A) STATE 225930; (B) MUSCAT 958; (C) STATE 229493

1. ON SEPTEMBER 28, DCM DISCUSSED KOREAN ISSUE ONCE AGAIN WITH ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS YUSUF AL-ALAWI. POINTS CONTAINED IN PARA 7 OF REFTEL (A) WERE MADE, AND APPROPRIATE EXCERPTS FROM SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 22 SPEECH LEFT FOR AL-ALAWI'S STUDY.

2. AL-ALAWI REITERATED POINTS MADE IN REFTEL (B). OMANGOV IS STILL SOUNDING OUT ARABS. NO ARAB STATE HAS APPROACHED OMANGOV ON THIS SUBJECT. IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF ONE OR MORE OF THEM DID SO. SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN OR MOROCCO WOULD SEEM TO BE BEST CANDIDATES TO PROD INTO SUCH A DEMARCHE.

3. ALONG THESE LINES, AL-ALAWI IS OF OPINION THAT ARAB
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 01096 300451Z

STATES INCLINED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION

ARE OMAN, SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN AND MOROCCO. HE ANTICIPATES THAT QATAR, UAE, AND BAHRAIN WILL ABSENT THEMSELVES FROM VOTE--OR OTHERWISE SIDESTEP ISSUE. BY HIS COUNT MAJORIT (HE PLACED NUMBER AT 14) OF ARAB STATES LIKELY TO VOTE FOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION.

4. OMANGOV WILL DEFER DECISION ON COSPONSORING UNTIL LAST MINUTE. ACTING MINISTER STATED FRANKLY THAT DECISION WIL BE MADE ON BASIS OF OMANDEL'S EVALUATION OF CHANCES FOR SUCCESS. IF IT APPEARS THAT FRIENDLY RESOLUTION PREDESTINED TO BE DEFEATED (WHICH AL-ALAWI PRESENTLY EXPECTS), THEN OMAN WILL NOT WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED CLOSELY WITH THE EFFORT. ON OTHER HAND, IF RESOLUTION APPEARS TO HAVE CHANCE OF PASSAGE, OMAN MAY CO-SPONSOR. DESPITE OMAN'S COMMENDABLE STANCE AT LIMA, GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT ALMOST IRRESISTABLE TIDE RUNNING AGAINST ROK SUPPORTERS. HENCE, EVEN OMAN'S FIRM DETERMINATION TO VOTE FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION WILL BE COSTLY IN LINING THEM UP AGAINST MAJORITY OF ARAB AND NAC NATIONS--A POSITION OMANGOV DOES NOT RELISH.

5. DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE, SAYYID FAHAR BIN TAIMUR, LEFT OMAN SEPTEMBER 26 FOR FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT BY OMANI MINISTER TO SOUTH KOREA. FAHAR'S ATTENDANCE AT ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATIONS IN SEOUL PORTRAED BY AL-ALAWI AS FORTHER INDICATION OF OMAN'S SUPPORT.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY DID NOT RAISE NAC RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO AT THIS TIME (REFTEL C). TO DO SO WOULD RISK INJECTING NOTE OF RECRIMINATION INTO OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP OMANGOV COMMITTED TO FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. OUR CHANCES OF SUCCESS ON KOREAN ISSUE APPEAR BETTER IF WE "ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE". FURTHERMORE, ALTHOUGH EMBASSY RECOGNIZES GENERAL VALIDITY OF AND SYMPATHIZES WITH HARD LINE OUTLINED IN REFTTEL (A), WE AT SAME TIME MUST POINT OUT THAT THREAT OF NEGATIVE REFLECTION ON BILATERAL RELATIONS IS NOT REALLY MEANINGFUL IN OMANI CONTEXT. IN BLUNT TERMS, U.S. INTERESTS HERE ARE MINIMAL AND, ON BLANCE, MUCH IN OUR FAVOR. WE WOULD CITE OMANI EFFORTS TO QUELL COMMUNIST-SUPPORTED GUERRILLA WAR IN DHOFAR, OMANGOV POLICY OF MAX-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MUSCAT 01096 300451Z

IMIZING PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, ENCOURAGEMENT OF U.S. INVESTMENT, ETC. EVEN IN REGARD TO SUCH POSITIVE POLCIES, WE HAVE HARDLY ANY LEVERAGE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: IF WE ARE GOING TO PUSH OMANIS ALONG TOWARDS MORE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN OUR EFFORTS RE KOREAN SSUE AT UN, WE NEED MORE THAN REPETITION OF USG POSITIONS NOW WELL-KNOWN TO OMANGOV. MOST USEFUL WOULD BE USG PRE-

DICTION ON HOW OTHER ARAB STATES MIGHT VOTE, RESULTS OF UK
EFFORTS TO GET JORDAN AND/OR MOROCCO TO COSPONSOR (MUSCAT
903), AND REALISTIC EVALUATION OF CHANCES OF SUCCESS FOR
FRIENDLY RESOLUTIO, WE WOULD USE SUCH INFORMATION WITH
DISCRETION, ESPECIALLY IF SOME OR ALL OF IT IS SUBSTANTIVELY
NEGATIVE. FINALLY, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF ANY NAC
MEMBER (IDEALLY AN ARAB STATE) COULD BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE
DEMARCHE TO OMANIS ON THIS ISSUE; THIS COULD BE DONE IN
MUSCAT, OR PERHAPS TO BETTER EFFECT IN NEW YORK TO FOREIGN
MINISTER QAIS ZAWAWI (WHO HAS BEEN ABSENT FROM OMAN PAST 2
MONTHS).

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